

Claim 44 (Previously presented) The method of Claim 34, wherein the at least one cationic component comprises cationic polymers.

Claim 45 (Previously presented) The method of Claim 44, wherein the cationic polymers are polyelectrolytes selected from the group consisting of $R_1R_2R_3R_4N^+$; $R_1R_2R_3R_4P^+$ and $R_1R_2R_3R_4As^+$, where R can be H, alkyl or other organic substituent.

Claim 46 (Previously presented) The method of Claim 45, wherein the polyelectrolytes comprise branched polymer chains.

Claim 47 (Previously presented) The method of Claim 44, wherein the cationic polymers are in solution with non-polymeric cations selected from the group consisting of calcium ions, aluminum ions, barium ions, strontium ions, zinc ions, magnesium ions and titanium ions.

Claim 48 (Previously presented) The method of Claim 45, wherein the cationic polymers are tetrasubstituted ammonium salts.

Claim 49 (Previously presented) The method of Claim 34, wherein the at least one cationic component comprises non-polymeric cations selected from the group consisting of calcium ions, aluminum ions, barium ions, strontium ions, zinc ions, magnesium ions and titanium ions.

Claims 50-57 (Canceled)

REMARKS

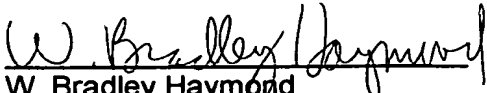
In response to the examiner's earlier restriction requirement in the parent application, previously presented claims 1-16 and 34-49 were withdrawn. These claims are now being presented again. Claims 17-33 and 50-57 have been canceled.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

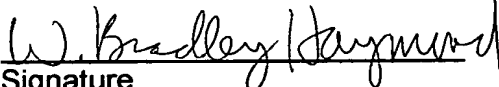
Respectfully submitted,

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